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DOCUMENT ID: 26850919

INQNO: DOC3D 00316371

DOCNO: TEL 010112 86

PRODUCER: VIENNA SOURCE: STATE DOCTYPE: IN

DOR: 19860709; TOR: 192255

DOCPREC: R

ORIGDATE: 198607091505 MHFNO: 86 1458688

DOCCLASS: U

HEADER
RR RUEAIIB
ZNR UUUUU ZOC STATE ZZH
STU7424
RR RUEHC
DE RUEHVI #0112/01 1901506
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
R 091505Z JUL 86
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 5447
RUEHAM/AMEMBASSY AMMAN 0956
RUFHOL/AMEMBASSY BONN 4530
RUEHDM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS 0950
RUEHSA/AMEMBASSY PRETORIA 0359
RUFHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 3062

CONTROLS
UNCLAS VIENNA 10112

STATE FOR EUR/CE, INR/WEA AND INR/P USIA FOR EU USDOC FOR IEP/EUR/OWE FOR P.COMBE

RUEHDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0228

E.O. 12356: N/A

TEXT

TAGS: PREL, PINR, PGOV, AU, IS, XF, JO, WA, SF, UN, PLO SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN PRESS SUMMARY NO. 124/86, FOR 07/09/86

WALDHEIM SWORN IN

1. KURT WALDHEIM WAS SWORN IN AS AUSTRIA'S 6TH POST-WAR PRESIDENT IN FRONT OF A JOINT SESSION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY JULY 8. IN HIS INAUGURAL SPEECH TO THE AUSTRIAN PARLIAMENT, PRESIDENT WALDHEIM STRESSED "MORALITY, TOLERANCE AND PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT" AS BASIC PRINCIPLES GUIDING HIS PRESIDENCY. EMPHASIZING HIS COMMITMENT TO BE "A PRESIDENT FOR ALL AUSTRIANS", WALDHEIM PLEDGED TO WORK TOWARDS RECONCILIATION AND CONSTRUCTIVE

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COOPERATION. THE NEW PRESIDENT SAID THAT AUSTRIA, IN MEMORY OF THE VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST, WILL CONTINUE FIGHTING RACIAL AND RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION. WALDHEIM ALSO EXPRESSED HIS DESIRE TO ELIMINATE SOCIAL INJUSTICE IN AUSTRIA AND TO FOLLOW THE MODEL OF HIS PREDECESSOR RUDOLF KIRCHSCHLAEGER. (ALL PAPERS, ORF NEWS, JULY 9)

DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST WALDHEIM

2. POLITICAL OBSERVERS OF THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY REPORTED "RESTRAINED" DISAPPROVAL BY SPO MPS IN PARLIAMENT. DURING THE CEREMONY, A U.S. RABBI AND NUN, TOGETHER WITH THE WELL-KNOWN NAZI HUNTER AND JOURNALIST BEATE KLARSFELD, STAGED AN ANTI-WALDHEIM PROTEST IN FRONT OF THE PARLIAMENT BUILDING. IN DOWNTOWN VIENNA, AUSTRIAN INTELLECTUALS ALSO PROTESTED AGAINST "POLITICAL FORGETFULNESS". FROM ISRAEL, ANTI-WALDHEIM RALLIES IN FRONT OF THE AUSTRIAN EMBASSY WERE REPORTED. THE PRESS ALSO QUOTED CRITICAL VOICES IN THE ISRAELI PAPERS. IN BOSTON, JEWISH-BORN AUSTRIAN HONORARY CONSUL MASTERMANN REPORTEDLY RESIGNED AFTER LEARNING OF WALDHEIM'S INAUGURATION. (ALL PAPERS, E.G. SOCIALIST AZ, ORF NEWS, JULY 8,9)

EDITORIAL COMMENT ON WALDHEIM'S INAUGURATION

3. JOURNALISTS OF AUSTRIA'S CONSERVATIVE PRESS HOPED WALDHEIM'S OUTSPOKEN PLEDGE FOR RECONCILIATION OF THE NATION WOULD EVENTUALLY ELIMINATE LINGERING DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN DISAPPROVAL OF AUSTRIA. WALDHEIM IS CERTAINLY NOT EXEMPT FROM CRITICISM AND IS FULLY AWARE THAT HE MUST FULFILL THE RESOLUTIONS HE PROCLAIMED, THE CONSERVATIVE EDITORIALISTS CLAIMED. SOCIALIST "AZ", NOTING THE "DAMAGE AUSTRIA HAS SUFFERED BECAUSE OF WALDHEIM", ARGUED THAT TOO MUCH HAS SURFACED RECENTLY TO SIMPLY "BURY THE SHREDS AND RETURN TO BUSINESS AS USUAL". (INDEPENDENT DIE PRESSE, INDEPENDENT KURIER, SOCIALIST AZ, COMMUNIST VOLKSSTIMME, JULY 9)

ISRAELI AMBASSADOR TO RETURN TO VIENNA

4. ISRAELI RADIO REPORTEDLY HAS STATED THAT ISRAELI AMBASSADOR MICHAEL ELIZUR, WHO WAS RECENTLY RECALLED FOR CONSULTATIONS, WILL RETURN TO HIS POST. THE MOVE IS INTERPRETED AS A GOOD-WILL GESTURE AND A COMPROMISE. (SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, JULY 9)

ARAFAT SEES U.S. AND ISRAELI PRESSURE BEHIND JORDAN'S CLOSING OF PLO OFFICES

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5. IN AN INTERVIEW IN VIENNA JULY 8, PLO CHIEF YASSIR ARAFAT CLAIMED THAT THE U.S. AND ISRAEL HAVE BEEN PRESSURING JORDAN TO CLOSE DOWN PLO OFFICES IN AN EFFORT TO FURTHER ISOLATE THE PALESTINIANS IN THAT COUNTRY. FEARING A SITUATION SIMILAR TO THAT OF BLACKS IN SOUTH AFRICAN, ARAFAT CALLED THE ACTION "A DISGRACE" WHICH BEARS THE FRUITS OF "FURTHER ESCALATION". (INDEPENDENT UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 VIENNA 10112

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KURIER, JULY 9)

PROMINENT PERSONALITIES DISCUSS NAMIBIAN INDEPENDENCE

6. A BODY OF "PROMINENT PERSONALITIES", AMONG THEM FORMER MEXICAN PRESIDENT LUIS ECHEVERRIA, FORMER AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR BRUNO KREISKY AND SWAPO LEADER SAM NUJOMA, WILL DRAFT A RESOLUTION ON NAMIBIAN INDEPENDENCE FOR THE UN NAMIBIA CONFERENCE IN VIENNA. NUJOMA AGAIN CRITICIZED THE "HALF-HEARTED ATTITUDE OF THE U.S., GREAT BRITAIN AND WEST GERMANY" REGARDING A BOYCOTT OF SOUTH AFRICA. THE SWAPO CHIEF PRAISED FORMER UN SECRETARY-GENERAL KURT WALDHEIM FOR HIS COMMITMENT TO NAMIBIAN INDEPENDENCE. (SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, JULY 9)

VIENNA ANNOUNCES PR OFFENSIVE IN U.S.

7. IN AN EFFORT TO OFFSET THE STEEP DECLINE OF U.S. TOURISM IN VIENNA, VIENNA VICE MAYOR HANS MAYR ANNOUNCED AN ALL-OUT PR CAMPAIGN FOR VIENNA IN THE U.S. (ALL PAPERS, E.G. INDEPENDENT DIE PRESSE, JULY 9) BLOCH END OF MESSAGE

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